

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report

2023 Reporting Week 02: January 8 — January 14



This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

COVID-19 Trends

COVID-19 levels have plateaued but remain high for Okaloosa. **Recommended actions based on current COVID-19 Community Level (Medium):** Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. Wear a mask if you have symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19. Wear a mask on [public transportation](#). You may choose to wear a mask at any time as an additional precaution to protect yourself and others. If you are at [high risk for severe illness](#), consider wearing a mask indoors in public and taking [additional precautions](#).

On December 20, 2022, the CDC released a health alert network (HAN) for [Important Updates on COVID-19 Therapeutics for Treatment and Prevention](#) which provides information on COVID-19 Omicron sublineages with reduced susceptibility to specific monoclonal antibody treatments.

ILI Trends

Influenza-like illness (ILI) in Okaloosa decreased for 2023 Week 02 and is in line with the normal elevated average (current level: 3.75%; normal average: 3.0%). Please stay vigilant, review the weekly [Florida FLU REVIEW](#) for statewide information, and continue to promote vaccination.

On December 14, 2022, the CDC released a HAN for [Interim Guidance for Clinicians to Prioritize Antiviral Treatment of Influenza in the Setting of Reduced Oseltamivir](#) (e.g., Tamiflu). To date, the FDA and the Florida Department of Health have not received notification of shortages. General information on availability of antiviral medications can be found at [Influenza 2022-2034 \(fda.gov\)](#).

Contact Us:

**Florida Department of Health
in Okaloosa County**

Epidemiology Section

**24/7 Disease Reporting:
850-833-9065**

Confidential Fax:

850-833-7577

okaloosaepi@flhealth.gov

COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 02 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
MEDIUM	11.8	3.7%

PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: MEDIUM

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

Week 02 Community Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
HIGH	97.8	19.3%

PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH

Low	<10	<5.0%
Moderate	10-49	5.0 - 7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8.0 - 9.9%
High	>100	>10.0%

Community Level and Community Risk/Transmission Level are the color of the higher risk level for each of the two indicators. Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 02: January 8 — January 14

COVID-19 IN OKALOOSA, CASES vs. VACCINATION

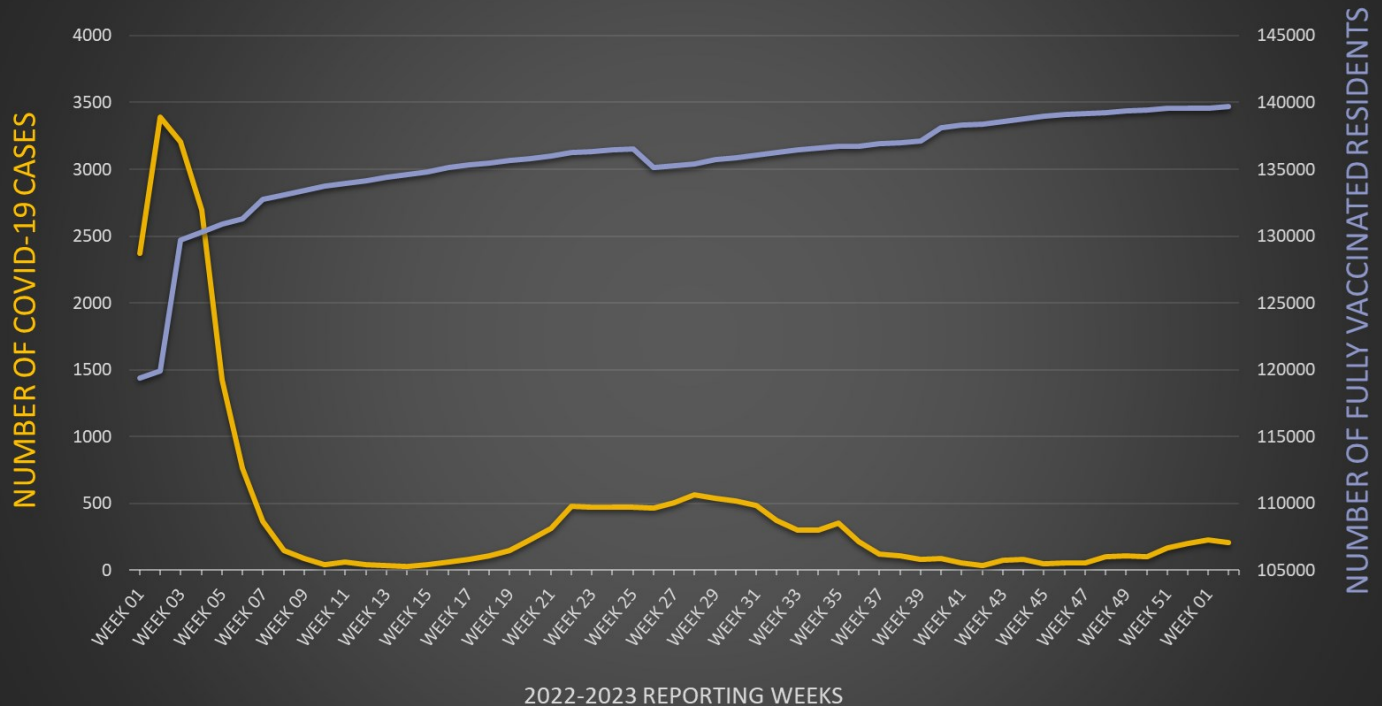


Figure 1: Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.
Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 02 Review		Difference from Wk 1
Resident Case Count	206	-24
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	97.8	-11.3
Average Resident Cases per Day	29.4	-3.5
Percent Positivity	19.3%	-1.0

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

Please visit the [COVID-19 Community Profile Report](#) webpage to obtain death data by downloading the most recent excel file and locating Okaloosa on the 'Counties' tab.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or NewsMedia@flhealth.gov.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	70.9%	73.0%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	76.7%	77.3%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79.4%	78.8%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	94.1%

Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



Influenza-Like Illness

Week 02: January 8 — January 14

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.

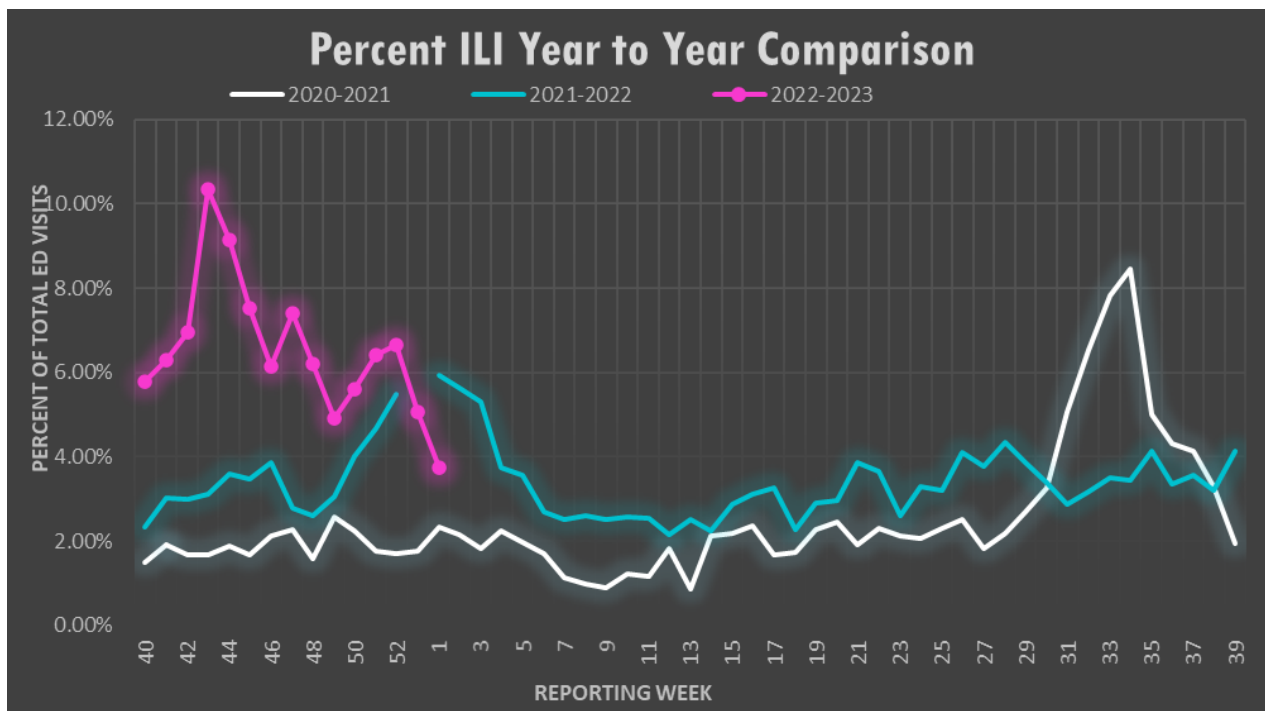


Figure 2: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 02, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported a decrease in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County decreased from 5.06% during Week 01 to 3.75% during Week 02. Flu partners reported 3 positive rapid flu tests this week (2 Influenza A and 1 Influenza B). Over the past three weeks, 14 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (8 Influenza A H3, 5 Influenza A H1N1, and 1 Influenza A H1). There were no ILI admissions or deaths reported by flu partners this week. One outbreak has been reported in the past 3 weeks. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 02 is lower than that of Week 02 last year.

Note: Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

% ILI by Age Group Week 02, 2023

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	18	164	10.98%
5-19	19	286	6.64%
20-34	21	456	4.61%
35-54	9	584	1.51%
55-74	15	559	2.68%
75+	6	298	2.01%

Data Source: ESSENCE

% of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 2, 2023

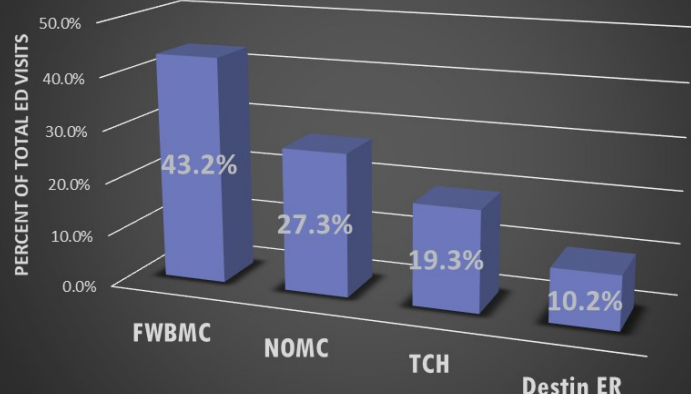


Figure 3: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=88). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

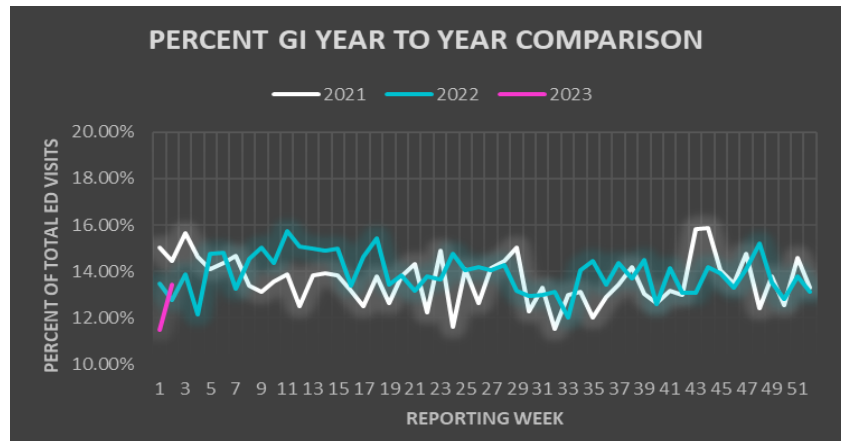
Week 02: January 8 — January 14

Gastro-intestinal Illness (GI)

Figure 4:

Annual comparison for the percent of GI for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

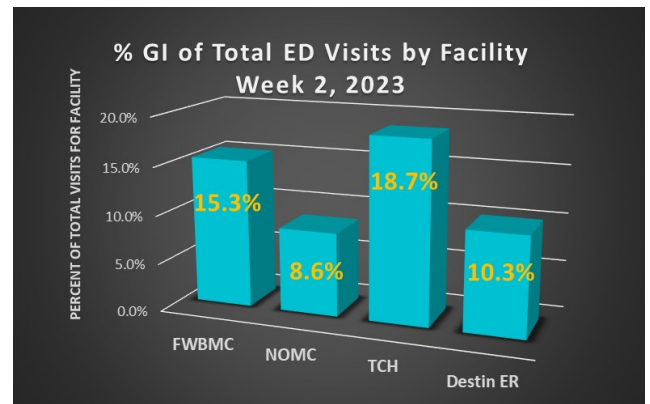


% GI by Age Group Week 02, 2023			
Age Range	GI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total GI Visits
0-4	23	164	14.02%
5-19	54	286	18.88%
20-34	80	456	17.54%
35-54	73	584	12.50%
55-74	54	559	9.66%
75+	31	298	10.40%

Figure 5:

Hospital emergency room visits due to GI illness stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE

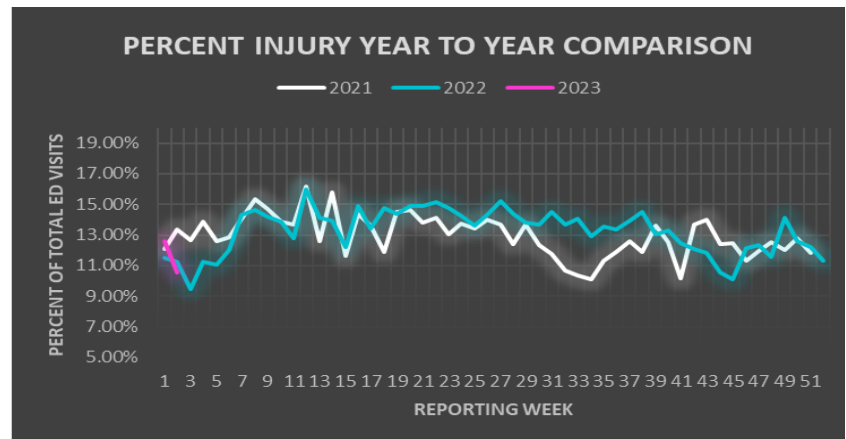


Injury

Figure 6:

Annual comparison for the percent of Injury for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

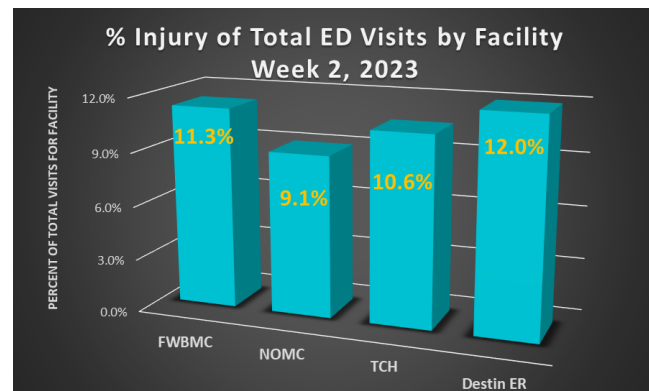


% Injury by Age Group Week 02, 2023			
Age Range	Injury Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total Injury Visits
0-4	20	164	12.20%
5-19	44	286	15.38%
20-34	47	456	10.31%
35-54	57	584	9.76%
55-74	44	559	7.87%
75+	36	298	12.08%

Figure 7:

Hospital emergency room visits due to Injury stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE





Syndromic Surveillance

Week 02: January 8 — January 14

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

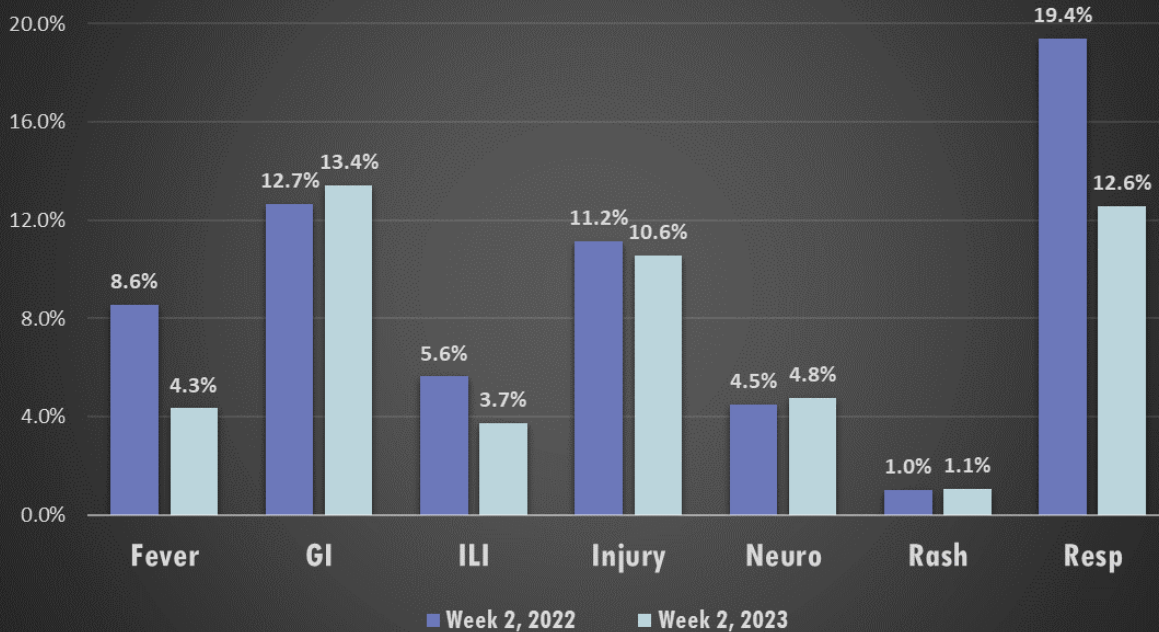
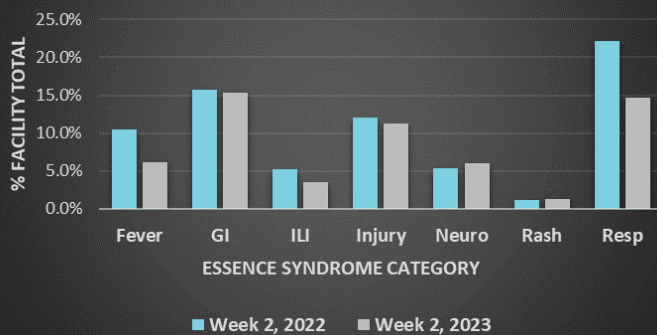


Figure 8: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2023 Week 02 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2650). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%.
Data source: ESSENCE

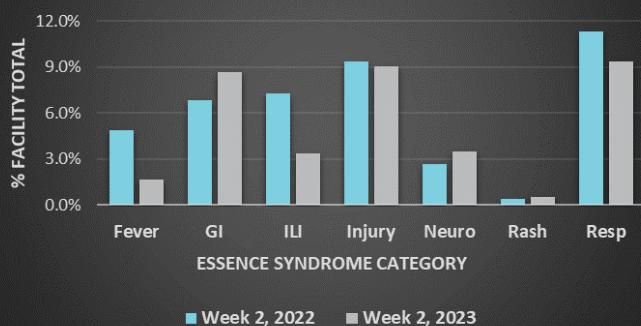
Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 02- Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	31
5-19	GI	30
20-34	GI	47
35-54	GI	32
55-74	RESP	32
75+	RESP	20

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 02- North Okaloosa Medical Center

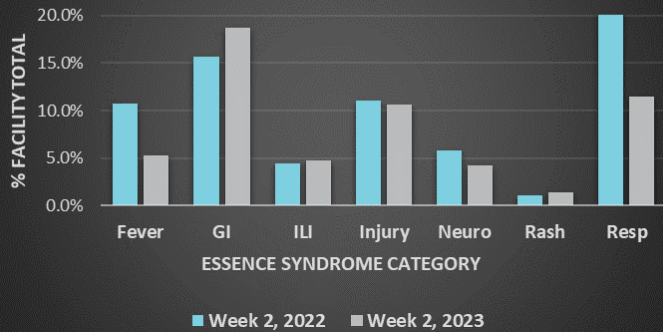
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	INJURY	8
5-19	GI, RESP	11, 11
20-34	GI, INJURY	14, 14
35-54	GI	18
55-74	RESP	23
75+	GI, INJURY	8, 8



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 02: January 08 — January 14

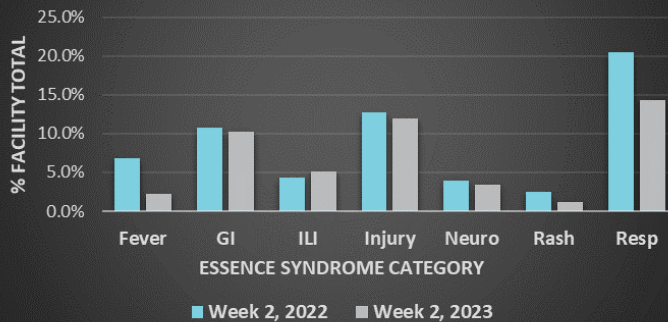
Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



Week 02- Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	5
5-19	GI, INJURY, RESP	8, 8, 8
20-34	GI	15
35-54	GI	18
55-74	GI	13
75+	RESP	11

DestinER ED Presentations



Week 02- Destin ER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	3
5-19	GI	5
20-34	GI	4
35-54	RESP	10
55-74	INJURY	7
75+	INJURY	4

Week 02—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	RESP
5-19	GI
20-34	GI
35-54	GI
55-74	RESP
75+	RESP



Data Source: ESSENCE